

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-45 (cancelled)

46. (Currently amended) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device, said snow-traveling device having a first surface for engaging a human and a second contacting surface for contacting a congealed precipitation surface, said friction enhancing material comprising a first side and a second side, and said friction enhancing material further comprising a woven slant pile pattern having a uniform weave of polyester coated with droplet shaped beads of polyvinyl chloride for engaging the congealed precipitation surface, said method comprising the steps of:

preparing the snow-traveling device for receiving the friction enhancing material onto the second contacting surface of said snow-traveling device;

preparing the friction enhancing material for application onto the snow-traveling device to thereby increase the friction between the congealed precipitation surface and the snow-traveling device;

interposing an adhesive between the second contacting surface of the snow-traveling device and the first side of the friction enhancing material to releasably adhere the friction enhancing material to the snow-traveling device; and

applying pressure to the second side of the friction enhancing material to thereby install the friction enhancing material onto the second contacting surface on the snow-traveling device by placing the adhesive substance into close contact with both the snow-traveling device and the friction enhancing material whereby the friction between the second contacting surface and the congealed precipitation surface is enhanced.

47 and 48 (Cancelled)

49. (Currently amended) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim ~~48~~ 46 wherein said ~~flexible fabric~~ friction enhancing material has a first dimension and a second dimension, said uniform weave comprises a pattern that is the same when viewed in the first ~~direction~~ dimension and in the second ~~direction~~ dimension.

50. (Original) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 46 wherein said adhesive at least one chosen from the group consisting of: spray adhesive, double-sided adhesive tape, and a gelatinous adhesive.

51. (Original) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 50 wherein said adhesive releasably affixes said friction enhancing material to the snow-traveling device whereby the friction enhancing material is held in place and is kept from moving in relation to the snow-traveling device as the snow-traveling device is maneuvered on the congealed precipitation surface.

52. (Previously presented) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 46 wherein said step of preparing the snow-traveling device further comprises the step of orienting the snow-traveling device such that any loose debris on the second contacting surface of the snow-traveling device can be cleaned off.

53. (Original) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 52 wherein

said step of preparing the friction enhancing material further comprises the step of unrolling the friction enhancing material from a roll having an outside diameter less than about four inches.

54. (Previously presented) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 53 wherein said step of preparing the friction enhancing material further comprises the step of exposing the adhesive such that the friction enhancing material can be affixed to the snow-traveling device.

55. (Previously presented) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 54 wherein said step of preparing the snow-traveling device further comprises the step of holding said snow-traveling device such that said friction enhancing material can be detachably affixed to the snow-traveling device.

56. (Original) A method of applying a friction enhancing material to a snow-traveling device as defined in claim 46 wherein said friction enhancing material further comprises a first end and a second end, said friction enhancing material further comprising

a fastener provided at its first end and adapted for fastening the friction enhancing material to the snow-traveling device.

57. (currently amended) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation when a human is utilizing a snow-traveling device, the snow-traveling device having a first end, a second end and a contacting surface, said apparatus comprising:

a friction enhancement means for enhancing friction between the contacting surface of said snow-traveling device and the congealed precipitation, said friction enhancement means comprising a woven polyester coated with polyvinyl chloride droplets;

a first side provided on the friction enhancement means adapted for making contact with the snow-traveling device;

a second side provided on the friction enhancement means for contacting the congealed precipitation surface; and

means for adhering the first side of said friction enhancement means to the contacting surface of the snow-traveling device to increase the friction between the snow-traveling device and the congealed precipitation to improve mobility of the human on the congealed precipitation.

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Currently amended) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim ~~58~~ 57 wherein said woven polyester has a pattern, a first dimension and a second dimension, the pattern being the same when viewed in the first dimension and as when viewed in the second dimension.

60. (Original) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim 57 wherein said apparatus has a first dimension and a second dimension, said friction enhancement means having droplets protruding out therefrom such that the droplets protrude into the congealed precipitation when in use.

61. (Original) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim 60 wherein the friction enhancement means comprises a woven pattern which is the same when viewed in the direction of said first dimension and said the direction of said second dimension.

62. (Original) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim 57 wherein said means for adhering comprises an adhesive substance.

63. (Original) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim 62 wherein said adhesive substance is at least one selected from the group consisting of: spray adhesive, double-sided tape, and gelatinous adhesive.

64. (Original) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation as defined in claim 57 wherein said apparatus further comprises a fastener, said fastener attaching the apparatus to the first end of the snow-traveling device.

65-69 (Cancelled)

70. (New) An apparatus for improving human mobility on congealed precipitation when a human is utilizing a snow-traveling device, the snow-traveling device having a first end, a second end and a contacting surface, said apparatus comprising:

a friction enhancement means for enhancing friction between the contacting surface of said snow-traveling device

and the congealed precipitation, said friction enhancement means comprising a substrate which is woven and having globules protruding from said substrate to thereby increase the friction between the apparatus and the congealed precipitation surface;

a first side provided on the friction enhancement means adapted for making contact with the snow-traveling device;

a second side provided on the friction enhancement means for contacting the congealed precipitation surface; and

means for adhering the first side of said friction enhancement means to the contacting surface of the snow-traveling device to increase the friction between the snow-traveling device and the congealed precipitation to improve mobility of the human on the congealed precipitation.

71. (New) The apparatus of claim 70 wherein the globules comprise polyvinyl chloride.